

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00988 311508Z

44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

OMB-01 TRSE-00 OES-03 FEA-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 DHA-02

EUR-12 ACDA-05 AID-05 PC-01 /098 W

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R 311345Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2471

INFO AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 0988

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS

SUBJECT: POLICE CRACKDOWN ON EVE OF SEPTEMBER
FIRST CELEBRATIONS

1. PRESUMABLY AS A RESULT OF THE MUHAYSHI PLOT, THE POLICE SEEM TO HAVE RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO CRACKDOWN ON COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITY ON THE EVE OF THE SEPTEMBER FIRST ANNIVERSARY. WE HAVE HEARD RELIABLY THAT SEVERAL SENIOR LIBYAN EMPLOYEES OF OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM WERE ARRESTED LATE LAST WEEK WITHOUT EXPLANATION, APPARENTLY ON POLITICAL CHARGES. TWO OF THOSE ARRESTED HAD BEEN POLITICALLY ACTIVE BEFORE THE REVOLUTION IN OPPOSITION THE THE MONARCHY, AND ONE IS A WEALTHY, PRO-WESTERN MEMBER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT WHO HAS MADE NO SECRET OF HIS DISDAIN FOR THE CURRENT REGIME. TWO AMERICAN CITIZENS WERE ALSO ARRESTED WITHOUT EXPLANATION THIS WEEKEND. ONE HAS BEEN RELEASED AND ORDERED TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY, AND WE ARE TRYING TO FIND OUT WHETHER THE SECOND IS STILL IN CUSTODY. NEW BANNERS WHICH HAVE
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PAGE 02 TRIPOL 00988 311508Z

APPEARED IN TOWN REINFORCE THE ATMOSPHERE OF

REPRESSION: "NO MERCY TO THE ENEMIES OF THE
REVOLUTION."

2. TURNOUT OF DELEGATIONS TO ATTEND THE
CELEBRATIONS IS SPARSE THIS YEAR. PRESIDENT CABRAL
OF GUINEA-BISSAU AND IDI AMIN (WHO CAME
EARLY TO HAVE HIS TONSILS OUT) ARE HERE,
ALONG WITH HIGH-RANKING MILITARY DELEGATIONS FROM
PAKISTAN AND TURKEY. ARAB DELEGATIONS INCLUDE
GEORGE HABBASH OF THE PFLP, ADDAS KHALF,
LEBANESE ECONOMY MINISTER, AND ALGERIAN RCC
MEMBER YAHYAOUI, WITH OTHERS LIKELY TO ARRIVE
AT THE LAST MOMENT. THE LOCAL TASS CORRESPONDENT
EXPLAINS THE ABSENCE OF A HIGH-LEVEL SOVIET
DELEGATION BY SAYING THAT THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP
RECEIVED NO INVITATION TO ATTEND THIS YEAR.
THERE WILL BE A SOVIET PRESENCE, HOWEVER, AS
MIG 23S ARE ALREADY VISIBLE OVER TRIPOLI PRACTICING
FOR TOMORROW'S FLY-BY.
STEIN

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NNN

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